Want of sufficient irrigation facilities for paddy crops in Cauvery Belt Region of Karaikal

774. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY; Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that due to failure of monsoon for the last four years, the Cauvery belt region of Karaikal, a part of Pondicherry region, is suffering for want of sufficient irrigation facilities for paddy crops;

(b) whether the Cauvery Water Tribunal set up by Government has passed any interim award for the benefit of riparian States like Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry; and

(e) when the final award relating to Cauvery water dispute will be expected?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): Apart form reliability of monsoon rains, the success of irrigation depends o_n condition of the distribution net-work, water distribution efficiency, location of irrigation areas in the comman and availability of back up storages.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956, does not prescribe any time limit for the Tribunal to give its award.

Delivery of Letters in Pondicherry..

775. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY; Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the letters to be delivered in Pondicherry reach the addressee after a long period even though it may be local delivery; and

(b) whether Government propose to set up RMS postal distribution system in the Pondicherry region?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY JMINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PRA-, KASH); (a) Yes, Sir. There have been some complaints about delay in delivery of mails.

(b) At pre'sent there is no proposal or justification for opening a R. M. S. Sorting Office at Pondicherry, as suitable alternate! arrangements exist.

Setitng up autonomous Corporations *lot.* Telephone and allied Telecom Services

776. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL;

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to reverse the earlier decision to set up autonomous corporation to take over and run promptly the telephone and allied telecom services;

(b) if so, the reasons for reversing the decision; and

(c) the extent to which the telecom ser vices are likely to improve as a result of the above decision?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PRA KASH); (a) to (c) No,, Sir, no decijsion to this effect has been taken so far. The Government has set up a High Level Com mittee to go into all aspects of restructur ing of Telecom Organisation in the coun try and recommending the most appropriate organisational structure keeping in view the developmental and operational needs as well as the financial implications etc. Ap propriate decisions in the matter will be taken after receipt of the Committee's, report.